

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT County Fire	(2) MEETING DATE 5/19/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Suzi Cain / 543-4244 Robert Lewin / 543-4244	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve an amendment to a contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, under which County Fire would continue to provide Emergency Medical Services to California Valley through December 31, 2015. District 5.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended your Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign the amendment to the contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, for Emergency Medical Services to California Valley, extending the period through December 31, 2015.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Funded through Topaz Solar Farms LLC	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$228,159 (FY 15-16 only)	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>12/3/14</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 5			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: County Fire / Robert Lewin / 543-4244

DATE: 5/19/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve an amendment to a contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, under which County Fire would continue to provide Emergency Medical Services to California Valley through December 31, 2015. District 5.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended your Board approve and direct the Chairperson to sign the amendment to the contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC, for Emergency Medical Services to California Valley, extending the period through December 31, 2015.

DISCUSSION

Topaz Solar Farms LLC is the owner and operator of Topaz Solar Farms, the 550 megawatt solar farm project near California Valley. First Solar was the primary construction contractor on the project. First Solar's corporate policy required that Advanced Life Support (ALS) level emergency medical services with a response time of 15 minutes or less be available to its workers during construction.

On June 19, 2012, the County of San Luis Obispo entered into a contract with First Solar to provide these services. Prior to construction, County Fire provided emergency medical services at the Basic Life Support (BLS) level in California Valley (Station 42), which was provided by County Fire Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). ALS level services can only be provided by more highly trained Paramedics and are regulated by the County Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA), which oversees the ALS system countywide.

The County Fire Department and First Solar negotiated an agreement under which the County would provide ALS level service to the entire California Valley area during the three year time period in which construction was to take place. The contract with First Solar was scheduled to run through June 30, 2015, but construction of the solar farm has been completed and First Solar has ended its County contract for ALS as of January 1, 2015.

Topaz Solar Farms LLC, the owner of the newly constructed solar farm, entered into a contract with the County, approved by your Board on December 3, 2014, for the remainder of the First Solar contract period, January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Topaz has requested that the contract be extended through December 31, 2015, and the attached contract amendment provides for the continuation of services for this period.

The terms of the proposed amendment to the contract with Topaz are unchanged from the original contract, with two exceptions: the term is extended through December 31, 2015, and the level of emergency medical services provided by the County will be reduced from the Advanced Life Saving (paramedic) level to the Basic Life Savings (EMT) level. The emergency medical services funded by Topaz will continue to be available to all residents served by County Fire Station 42 in California Valley. Services will be accessed through the 911 telephone system, and Topaz will receive no priority or exclusive right to service above that provided to any other resident in California Valley.

Topaz Solar Farms LLC has expressed interest in a longer term commitment to maintaining this service after the December 31, 2015 expiration of the contract.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

County Counsel has approved the amended contract as to form and legal effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Costs incurred for providing services under the amended contract are estimated to be \$228,159 for the period July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The County shall invoice Topaz Solar Farms LLC for services in advance. The payment by Topaz Solar Farms LLC shall be made to the County within thirty (30) days of the date of the invoice from the County.

A total of \$180,000 of General Fund expense is recommended in the FY 2015-16 Proposed Budget to support full time staffing of the County's fire station in California Valley, Station 42. Prior to entering into the contract with First Solar in June of 2012, the County funded fire service for three days each week at Station 42. This base level of funding, combined with the Topaz Solar Farms contract amount and the additional General Fund expense recommended in the FY 2015-16, will enable full time staffing of the station in California Valley. The additional General Fund expense recommended in FY 2015-16 is sufficient to fund the full fiscal year, should Topaz Solar Farms decide to commit additional funding for fire service staffing in California Valley through the end of Fiscal Year 2015-16.

RESULTS

Emergency medical services provided during the period of the contract with Topaz Solar Farms LLC will continue full-time emergency medical services in the California Valley area, as has been the case since the beginning of construction of the Topaz Solar Farm. This level of service will be available to all residents of California Valley. Board approval of this agreement will contribute to the County's Vision of a Healthy, Safe and Well-Governed Community.

ATTACHMENTS

First Amendment to Agreement for Emergency Medical Services County of San Luis Obispo and Topaz Solar Farms LLC